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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Some Important Happenings in the South

THAT MAY PLEASE OUR READERS

An Assortment of New Events That Occurred in our Midst That Cannot Fail to Interest.

San Bernardino wants a new jail. Los Angeles needs a public library building.

Oil produced at Newhall sells for \$4 a barrel at Newhall.

The first regular train over the Randsburg road was run last Friday.

The railway into the Oja is expected to be in operation by Feb. 15.

Bardsdale is to have a \$1500 Methodist Episcopal church building.

Redlands postoffice receipts have increased 22½ per cent over last year's.

The South San Diego ostrich farm has plucked their first crop of feathers.

The Randsburg fire department is now equipped with a chemical engine.

The Santa Barbara News has doubled its size. It now has eight pages instead of four.

During the past year new buildings were erected in Los Angeles, valued at \$2,481,685.

About 1500 men are improving the Santa Fe roadbed between Mojave and Albuquerque.

Colton taxpayers will vote on the question of issuing \$20,000 of water on December 27.

A coal famine exists at Randsburg. Not a pound is to be had, and grease-wood is in demand.

The Randsburg postoffice in the month of November canceled \$197 worth of postage stamps.

The Santa Fe railway company now consumes 85 barrels of Southern California oil daily and the S. P. 35.

The poultry show at Riverside was a grand success. Three thousand dollars worth of birds were on exhibition.

Citizens of Ventura declined the proposition for the reorganization of that town into a city of the fifth class.

Frank P. Nicholson has been fined \$500 for attempting to bribe a juror in the Compton case, in Los Angeles.

The Santa Fe company is fitting up cars to be lighted by electricity generated by the running gear of the car.

A franchise has been granted to the valley railroad along Fifteenth street across the entire city of Bakersfield.

Avalon was visited by a flock of sea pigeons this week. The birds are web-footed and resemble carrier pigeons.

Diphtheria is disappearing from Los Angeles. Twenty or thirty cases of a virulent type were recently reported.

At the election for \$150,000 fire bonds and \$330,000 school bonds in Los Angeles both propositions were defeated.

A dealer at Santa Barbara recently sold \$1600 worth of sea shells to a San Francisco dealer in curios and marine articles.

The recent freeze did no damage either in San Bernardino, Highland, Rialto, Cucamonga, Ontario, Colton or Bryn Mawr.

Representative Castle has introduced in the House a bill appropriating \$150,000 for the erection of a public building at San Diego.

Another train will be put on the Santa Fe kite-shaped track to accommodate the increasing passenger business of the line.

Steamers have been unable to land at Port Harford and Lompoc recently, owing to the rough weather north of Point Conception.

The Terminal road will be extended two miles to Millard's canyon, near Pasadena, for the purpose of opening a granite quarry.

Electrical connection is soon to be made between San Gabriel canyon and Los Angeles. Poles for the wires are being rapidly placed.

Redlands is preparing to observe Washington's Birthday with a grand celebration, which will include all the neighboring towns.

The board of directors of the Los Angeles chamber of commerce has passed resolutions opposing the annexation of the Hawaiian islands.

Riverside shipped 443,008 boxes of

oranges the first week in December, equal to 149 carloads.

John Pitts of Hueneme has applied for a patent on a new water motor he has invented. There is capital back of him to push the enterprise.

San Diego needs a new high school building. There are now nearly 100 school children who cannot be accommodated in the present building.

The Lytle Creek Light and Power company has secured a dam site on Lytle creek, San Bernardino county, and rights for a dam 150 feet high.

W. P. Fulton is hauling lumber and piping for the new bath houses at his springs at Sespe, Ventura county, said to be the largest in Southern California.

National City is preparing to organize a fire department. The Senate has passed a bill appropriating \$250,000 for an additional Postoffice at Los Angeles.

A regular epidemic of fires is prevailing in Perris. They have had six bad fires within the last six weeks. The property destroyed amounts to nearly \$12,000.

A new railroad franchise has been granted from the National City line to San Diego river, around San Diego bay. Some eastern road is declared to be interested.

An enterprising man near Santa Barbara is planting forty acres of land with peas, in the expectation of supplying the city markets at a season when other sections cannot.

The Orphans' Home on Mission street, in South Pasadena, which has been presided over by Miss Olive L. Cleveland for the past five years, burned to the ground last week.

The Santa Fe company has a force of 60 men at work graveling the track between Colton and Riverside, and the roadbed was never in better condition than it is at the present time.

The railroad business is so great at Flagstaff that the local force is overtaxed to handle it. The yards and side tracks need extending and increasing so as to give room for the trains.

J. F. Adams of the Los Angeles Board of Education, admits that he extorted money from employees of the school department. The more this scandal is probed the more serious it appears.

As nearly as can be estimated, there are at present about 6750 stamps in operation in California—about 1100 of these being in Southern California. In Nevada county there are 760 at work.

An extra large school of sardines is inhabiting the waters along the seashore near Ventura at present. Large catches have been made by local fishermen. One haul resulted in a catch of over 2000 pounds.

The Alhambra Addition Water company will soon make the experiment of raising water by means of compressed air from its wells in El Moline canyon to provide for an increased supply for irrigating next season.

The San Fernando Valley Water company will increase its storage by building a dam near Chatsworth Park. This will hold 40,000,000 gallons of water. The other two dams of the company hold 100,000,000 gallons.

Eighty of the merchants and business men of Pasadena have formed what is called the Pasadena Merchants' Protective Association, the object of which is to protect the members against people who do not pay their bills.

The Native Lumber company of San Jacinto have enough teams hauling orange boxes from their mills in the mountains to fill a car a day. This enables them to keep up their orders from Riverside orange growers.

Still another beet sugar factory is to be erected in this section within fifty miles of Los Angeles. The plant is being considered. Arrangements for land to provide the beets have already been made. It is to be king of them all.

The supervisors of Ventura county voted to construct a wood and steel bridge across the Santa Clara river, to embrace 2800 feet of earth levee, 600 feet timber trestle and twelve 80-foot spans of steel and wood truss; cost, \$35,000.

The company which has been constructing tunnels and ditches in the San Gabriel canyon, to furnish Pasadena and Los Angeles with electric power and is spending \$1,000,000, has completed 15 out of the 39 contemplated tunnels embraced in the work.

William McManey, a prominent miner of San Bernardino, created a sensation there a few days ago by stopping a pretty woman on the street and attempting to kiss her. He was intoxicated at the time, but when he sobered up he gave a check for the \$15 fine which the court imposed.

PACIFIC COAST NEWS

Important Information Gathered Around the Coast.

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST.

A Summary of Late Events That Are Boiled Down to Suit our Busy Readers.

Seven lives have been lost in the White Horse rapids, Alaska, during the last two months.

Prof. Perrine, of Lick Observatory, has been awarded a prize by the French Academy of Science.

Adolf Sutro, ex-mayor of San Francisco, is recovering from his apoplectic stroke of six weeks ago.

Mayor Phelan of San Francisco has let a contract for building a new theater at San Jose to cost \$50,000.

Representative Loud will make an attempt soon to have rural free postal delivery established throughout California.

Tests made by Prof. Frank Soule, of the State University, show that California marble is equal to any in the country.

For the fourth time Durrant is sentenced to hang, the 7th of January being the date set. His attorneys are confident of their ability to cause delay.

Clement V. Ball, a waiter at the Stockton Commercial hotel, claims that he is connected with the family of Washington, and an heir to the estate of Joseph Ball.

The estate of the late Charles F. Crocker was before Judge Coffey recently on a motion to fix the appraisers' fees. It is understood that the estate has been appraised at about \$7,000,000.

The steamer Cleveland stranded in Barclay sound. Eight of the crew reached shore, while two passengers and nineteen of the crew are dead or still at sea in an open boat. Other wrecks are reported, and fears are entertained for many overdue vessels.

A lump sum of \$66,000 has been paid by the directors of the Turlock irrigation district to James A. Waymire, contractor, who has finished one-third of the canal system of the district despite the injunctions and suits brought to stop work and payment.

The San Francisco and San Joaquin Valley railroad has filed an application with the board of harbor commissioners for a slip at the new ferry depot. It is the intention of the company to operate a ferry system between Point Richmond and the foot of Market street.

Spokane, Tacoma, Portland, San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego will soon be connected by the longest telephone system in the world. The circuit will be 1800 miles in length between Spokane and the Mexican border boundary. Superintendent Stands of the Sunset Telephone Company's northwest division announces his company is preparing to build across the Cascade Mountains next spring, connecting by a direct line Tacoma and Spokane, which now talk to each other via Portland and The Dalles.

At present the Sunset Telephone line runs southward to Eugene, Or., then to Redding, Cal., a distance of 300 miles, through Siskiyou Mountains. This gap is to be closed next year. A series of circuits which can be connected in a continuous line, is now in operation between Boston and Omaha. This line is about seventeen hundred miles long, 12 miles shorter than the Spokane-San Diego line. An extension to Helena is not improbable from Spokane. This would make the line 2211 miles in length, and make a long distance record not likely to be equaled until the company gets its proposed line to Dawson in operation.

The work of collecting salmon eggs at the California Fish Commission hatchery on the Sacramento river at Anderson has closed. The result of the season's operations are the most remarkable on record. Forty eight and a half million eggs were collected. This exceeds the previous records made at this station by 22,000,000 and is 23,000,000 more than were collected at all of the other hatcheries on this coast this year. These eggs will be hatched, and the fry planted in the waters of the State, with the exception of 3,000,000 that will be sent to Oregon, and 9,000,000 that will go to the New England States station on the United States Commission car tomorrow.

MINES AND MINING.

The location of the depot for the new Randsburg road has been decided upon and will be in the town of Johannesburg. This will necessitate the closing of several streets and alleys in the promising little town.

Twenty-two pounds of gold, or nearly \$5000, was taken from the plates of the Senatea mill, near Prescott, as the result of a recent run on 57 tons of second-grade ore from the Monte Cristo mine on Groom Creek.

It is claimed that the Commonwealth mine at Pearce, Cochise county, is the most profitable gold mine in America, and perhaps in the world. Fifteen miners and six mill men suffice to turn out over \$200,000 per month.

The Nellis group of Coconino county mines has been purchased from the original owners by Lombard, Goodie & Co., of Chicago. Another Coconino group of five claims has also been sold to New York parties for \$20,000.

Some sheep men brought into Truckee the other day some fine specimens of ore taken from the west side of the Washoe range. It is impossible to do any prospecting this winter, owing to the snow in that region, but some wonderful discoveries are anticipated in the spring.

W. G. McGinty of Los Angeles, an old-time Colorado miner, has located placer claims in the San Gabriel valley which are said to prospect from \$1 to \$1.80 per cubic yard, the dirt being from 4 to 20 feet thick. This is phenomenal if true. He also states that his quartz claims assay an average of \$87.40 in gold per ton.

The contracts have been let for the erection of a 50-stamp mill at Barstow, a concentrating and a cyanide attachment which will work over the concentrates and extract from the ore every particle of gold, and the works are to be in readiness for reduction of ore not later than March 1, 1898. They will depend largely on ore from Randsburg.

Jas G. Garrison of Los Angeles, Cal., who with several others went to the State of Antioquia, Republic of Columbia, South America, last February and returned soon afterwards, left again on Dec. 6th, with a party of four gentlemen. They intend to work the gold placers there, which are reported very rich.

A large amount of assessment work is being done all through the Randsburg district, as parties only have about two weeks more in which to do the work. As a good many prospectors have located more claims than they can handle, it is believed that a good deal of claim "jumping" will be done on and after the first of the year.

Quite a number of mining men have investigated the Jacalitos district, in Lower California, recently, and Los Angeles and Salt Lake capitalists are about to invest there. The camp is said to be one of the most promising in the west, having immense bodies of low-grade gold rock, entirely free-milling, and water and wood handy.

The Cripple Creek dividend this year have amounted to more than a million dollars. It is believed that we will be able to produce the same amount in the Rand district before many years pass, as the richness of ore increases with depth, and Randsburg in general promises to be the best and richest camp on the coast. All we need is more capital to hasten development.

Mining in Nevada County.

A correspondent of the Nevada City Transcript, who has been all through the mining districts of Nevada county, reports the mining outlook there very encouraging. He says: There are four great quartz lodes in Nevada county, the first or lower one being the North Star and the Allison Ranch lode, on the west side of Wolf creek. Next comes the Eureka Idaho lode, from foot-wall to the Lucky and Cambridge mines, with its series of rich ore shoots, many as yet hardly touched, notwithstanding that these two great and rich lodes have produced in gold in forty-eight years \$105,748,407. Then comes the Providence-Champion lode, from Town Talk to the La Suerie, which has produced, excluding Gold Flat, \$72,000,000 in gold, great portions of the lode remaining untouched and unexplored. Many of the mines now being prospected will yet compare favorably with the great Providence and Champion mines. All

that is needed is capital intelligently applied. Of course there are hundreds of mines, and some good ones, too, outside of these great lodes scattered through the county.

A New Desert Mining District.

A new mining district has just been formed on the Mojave, to be called the "Begg mining district," named after Jonathan Begg, the well-known miner. It occupies a triangular strip of territory about sixteen miles from east to west and twelve from apex to base. The nearest point of railroad is Hesperia. The specific boundaries of the new district are about as follows: It is bounded on the east by the Balck Hawk mining district, one and on the west by the Ord mining district and the east branch of the Mojave, which finds its headwaters in the mountains of the Holcomb valley mining district. The north boundary is the line of Ord district, and the southern boundary is a ridge of mountains sloping toward the Mojave and the north line of the Holcomb valley mining district. The principal place of business of the district is San Bernardino, and the election of officers is held the first Wednesday of October of each year. The officers elected for the first year are: R. T. Whitton of Riverside, president; F. Weise of Colton, secretary and recorder. The last named gentleman and Jonathan Begg have already located a number of valuable claims in the new district.—San Bernardino Times-Index.

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EASTERN NEWS ITEMS.

Boston has a new gas trust with a capital of \$1,400,000.

J. Pierpont Morgan has arrived in New York from Europe.

Heavy snows and rain fell over Missouri and Kansas last week.

Western roads agree to an advance in rates to take effect January 1st.

Chief Justice Conway of the Wyoming supreme court is dead at Cheyenne.

The Mississippi river has reached the lowest water mark of 1864 at St. Louis.

Senator J. W. Daniel was re-elected from Virginia by the unanimous vote of both houses.

The Stein's Pass train robbers have been caught and are now safe in jail at Silver City, New Mexico.

A syndicate of New York and foreign bankers has been organized to build the tunnel under the North river.

Orien Clements, a lawyer and 72, elder brother of Mark Twain, died suddenly at his home at Keokuk, Ia.

Some time ago a tack fell into the eye of Mrs. Herman Oelrichs of New York. Now there is danger of her losing both eyes.

General Lew Wallace believes that Hawaii will not be annexed and that this country is on the verge of a costly war with Japan.

A Lexington, Ky., dispatch says that Lewis George Clark, 86 years of age, the original George Harris of Harriet Beecher Stowe's famous novel, Uncle Tom's Cabin, died recently.

The remains of an Elothrium, a prehistoric animal, has been discovered in the bad lands of South Dakota. The skeleton is seven feet long, four feet high and a fair prototype of the present hog.

Prof. Brooks of Smith Observatory, Geneva, N. Y., reports the observation of a great group of sunspots approaching the center of the sun's disk. The group is visible to the naked eye through smoked glass and may be well defined with small telescopes. Measurements made by Prof. Brooks show this vast solar disturbance to be 100,000 miles in length.

FROM FOREIGN LANDS.

Bryan is receiving a warm welcome in Mexico.

General Blanco has invited exiles to return and guarantees full protection.

Hayti is again threatened with bombardment unless some old Italian claims are paid.

It is affirmed that the Pope will soon make Archbishop Corrigan of New York a Cardinal.

Two more German cruisers have sailed from Kiel to reinforce the fleet in Chinese waters.

Spaniards in Cuba are contemplating asking for a protectorate by the United States unless the war is ended.

It is openly declared at St. Petersburg that the partition of China among the European powers has begun.